

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	VEB Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld Production of Rare Metals for the USSR	DATE DISTR.	16 December 1955
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. The VEB Elektrochemische Kombinat Bitterfeld produced the following rare metals between 1 January and 30 June 1955:

Vanadium	8,534 kg
Molybdenum	8,367 kg
Titanium	33,957 kg
Germanium	804 kg
Germanium-Silicon	152 kg
Hafnium	1,482 kg
Niobium	611 kg
Zirconium	1,263 kg
Thorium	938 kg
Lanthanum	141 kg
Cerium	243 kg
Uranium	559 kg
Barium	815 kg
Strontium	208 kg
Calcium, purest (reinst)	1,372 kg
Sodium, " "	1,504 kg
Potassium, " "	521 kg
Calcium, technical	1,128 tons
Sodium, " "	1,054 tons
Potassium, " "	148 tons
Tantalum	698 kg

2. With the exception of Barium and Strontium, the raw materials from the USSR arrive as concentrates. From two to five percent of the concentrate supplied may be used by the Elektrochemische Kombinat for the production of compounds containing rare metals. However, the yield required by the USSR usually leaves only one percent of the concentrate for use by the Elektrochemische Kombinat.

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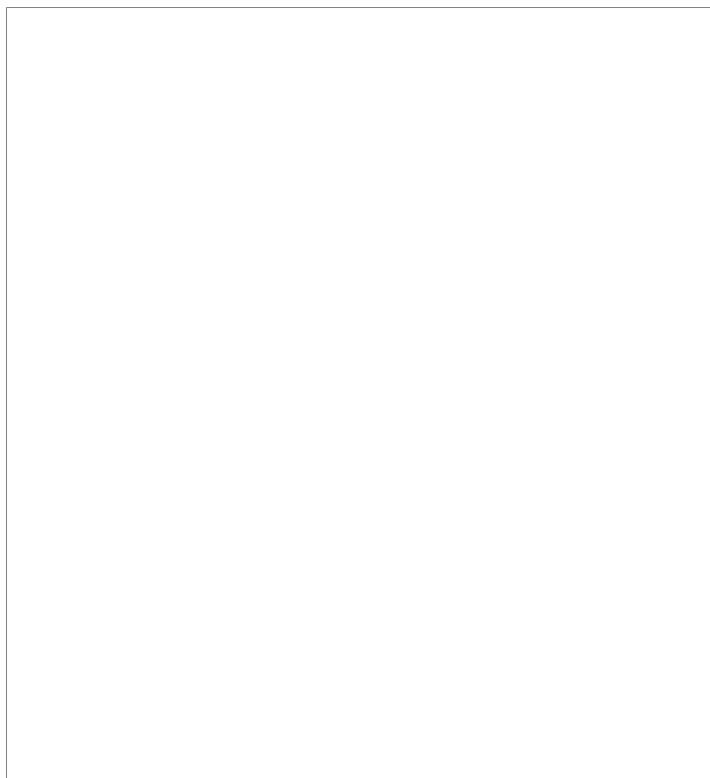


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3. The following metals are produced for the USSR on special order and do not appear on any statistical reports:

Niobium	Lanthanum
Hafnium	Cerium
Zirconium	Barium
Thorium	Strontium

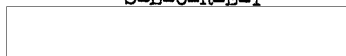
4. About 80 percent of the Thorium is delivered to the USSR as an oxide; Uranium is sent to the USSR either as metal or as oxide. All other rare metals are delivered to the USSR in pure state.
5. The production of Sodium has been increased because it is needed as a reducing agent in the production of Titanium, Uranium, Thorium, Molybdenum, Calcium. Sodium is also used in atomic energy production as ~~heat~~ conductor for reactors.



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